

5 We claim:

1. A method for treating Acne Vulgaris and/or for
producing anti-aging effects on the surface of the skin
comprising topically applying to the skin of a mammal an
effective amount of a topically active composition
comprising a first topically active agent.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the first topically
active agent is a protease.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the first topically
active agent is a serine protease.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the first topically
active agent is selected from trypsin, tryptase,
carboxypeptidase-Y, protease IV, subtilysin or mixtures
thereof.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the first topically
active agent is trypsin.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the first topically
active agent is present in an amount, based upon the
total volume of the topically active composition, of
from about 0% (w/v) to 5% (w/v).

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the first topically
active agent is present in an amount, based upon the
total volume of the topically active composition, of
from about 0.01% (w/v) to about 1% (w/v).

8. The method of claim 1 wherein said topically active
composition further comprises a pharmaceutically or
cosmetically acceptable vehicle.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein said pharmaceutically
or cosmetically acceptable vehicle is a liposome or
mixture thereof.

5 10. The method of claim 9 wherein said liposome is non-ionic.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein said liposome is comprised of:

10 a) glycerol dilaurate, glycerol distearate, or a mixture thereof;

b) cholesterol, or a compound having a steroid backbone as found in cholesterol or a mixture thereof; and

15 c) a fatty acid ether having from about 12 to about 18 carbon atoms or a mixture thereof.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein said liposome is comprised of:

a) glycerol dilaurate;

b) cholesterol; and

20 c) polyoxyethylene-10-stearyl ether.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein the components of said liposome are present in a ratio of about 53:10:22 to about 63:20:32, respectively.

14. The method of claim 8 wherein said pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable vehicle is present in an amount, based upon the total volume of said topically active composition, of from about 0 mg/mL to about 100 mg/mL.

15. The method of claim 1 wherein the composition further comprises other ingredients such as moisturizers, cosmetic adjuvants, anti-oxidants, surfactants, foaming agents, conditioners, humectants, fragrances, viscosifiers, buffering agents, sunscreens, colorants, preservatives, and the like.

5 16. A method for treating Acne Vulgaris and/or for
producing anti-aging effects on the surface of the skin
comprising topically applying to the skin of a mammal an
effective amount of:

 a) a first topically active agent; and

10 b) an effective amount of a second topically active
agent.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the first topically
active agent is a protease.

15 18. The method of claim 17 wherein the first topically
active agent is a serine protease.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein the first topically
active agent is selected from trypsin, tryptase,
carboxypeptidase-Y, protease IV, subtilysin or mixtures
thereof.

20 20. The method of claim 19 wherein the first topically
active agent is trypsin.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein the first topically
active agent is present in an amount of from about 0%
(w/v) to 5% (w/v).

25 22. The method of claim 21 wherein the first topically
active agent is present in an amount of from about 0.01%
(w/v) to about 1% (w/v).

23. The method of claim 16 wherein said second
topically active agent is a retinoid.

30 24. The method of claim 23 wherein said second
topically active agent is selected from retinoic acids,
vitamin A alcohol, vitamin A aldehyde, retinyl acetate,
retinyl palmitate, or other derivatives, analogs or
mixtures thereof.

- 5 25. The method of claim 24 wherein said second
topically active agent is all-trans retinoic acid.
26. The method of claim 24 wherein the second topically
active agent is present in an amount of from about
0.0001% (w/v) to about 0.5% (w/v).
- 10 27. The method of claim 26 wherein the second topically
active agent is present in an amount of from about
0.001% (w/v) to about 0.025% (w/v).
28. The method of claim 16 further comprising a
pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable vehicle.
- 15 29. The method of claim 28 wherein said
pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable vehicle is a
liposome or mixture thereof.
30. The method of claim 29 wherein said liposome is
non-ionic.
- 20 31. The method of claim 30 wherein said liposome
is comprised of:
- a) glycerol dilaurate, glycerol distearate, or a
mixture thereof;
- b) cholesterol, or a compound having a steroid
25 backbone as found in cholesterol or a mixture thereof;
and
- c) a fatty acid ether having from about 12 to about
18 carbon atoms or a mixture thereof.
32. The method of claim 31 wherein said liposome is
30 comprised of:
- a) glycerol dilaurate;
- b) cholesterol; and
- c) polyoxyethylene-10-stearyl ether.

5 33. The method of claim 31 wherein the components of said liposome are present in a ratio of about 53:10:22 to about 63:20:32, respectively.

34. The method of claim 28 wherein said pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable vehicle is present in an amount, based upon the total volume of said topically active composition, of from about 0 mg/mL to about 100 mg/mL.

10 35. The method of claim 16 further comprising other ingredients such as moisturizers, cosmetic adjuvants, anti-oxidants, surfactants, foaming agents, conditioners, humectants, fragrances, viscosifiers, buffering agents, sunscreens, colorants, preservatives, and the like.

15 36. The method of claim 16 wherein the first topically active agent is applied to the skin of a mammal simultaneously with the second topically active agent.

20 37. The method of claim 16 wherein the first topically active agent is applied to the skin of a mammal at a time other than simultaneously with the second topically active agent.

25 38. A pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition comprising:

- a) a first topically active agent; and
- b) a second topically active agent.

30 39. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim 38 wherein the first topically active agent is a protease.

5 40. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim 39 wherein the first topically active agent is a serine protease.

10 41. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim 40 wherein the first topically active agent is selected from trypsin, carboxypeptidase-Y, protease IV, subtilysin or mixtures thereof.

42. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim 41 wherein the first topically active agent is trypsin.

15 43. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim 42 wherein the first topically active agent is present in an amount, based upon the total volume of the topically active composition, of from about 0% (w/v) to 5% (w/v).

20 44. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim 43 wherein the first topically active agent is present in an amount, based upon the total volume of the topically active composition, of from about 0.01% (w/v) to about 1% (w/v).

25 45. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim 38 wherein said second topically active agent is a retinoid.

30 46. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim 45 wherein said second topically active agent is selected from retinoic acids, vitamin A alcohol, vitamin A aldehyde, retinyl acetate, retinyl palmitate, or other derivatives, analogs or mixtures thereof.

47. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim 46 wherein said second topically active agent is all-trans retinoic acid.

5 48. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim
46 wherein the second topically active agent is present
in an amount, based upon the total volume of the
topically active composition, of from about 0.0001%
(w/v) to about 0.5% (w/v).

10 49. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim
48 wherein the second topically active agent is present
in an amount, based upon the total volume of the
topically active composition, of from about 0.001% (w/v)
to about 0.025% (w/v).

15 50. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim
48 wherein said topically active composition further
comprises a pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable
vehicle.

20 51. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim
50 wherein said pharmaceutically or cosmetically
acceptable vehicle is a liposome or mixture thereof.

52. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim
51 wherein said liposome is non-ionic.

25 53. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of
claim 52 wherein said liposome is comprised of:

a) glycerol dilaurate, glycerol distearate, or a
mixture thereof;

30 b) cholesterol, or a compound having a steroid
backbone as found in cholesterol or a mixture thereof;
and

c) a fatty acid ether having from about 12 to about
18 carbon atoms or a mixture thereof.

54. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim
53 wherein said liposome is comprised of:

- a) glycerol dilaurate;
- b) cholesterol; and
- c) polyoxyethylene-10-stearyl ether.

55. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim 53 wherein the components of said liposome are present in a ratio of about 53:10:22 to about 63:20:32, respectively.

56. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim 50 wherein said pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable vehicle is present in an amount, based upon the total volume of said topically active composition, of from about 0 mg/mL to about 100 mg/mL.

57. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim 38 wherein the composition further comprises other ingredients such as moisturizers, cosmetic adjuvants, anti-oxidants, surfactants, foaming agents, conditioners, humectants, fragrances, viscosifiers, buffering agents, sunscreens, colorants, preservatives, and the like.